

An Indian Folk Tale

The Rooster's Ploy

कुंकडालें उपाय



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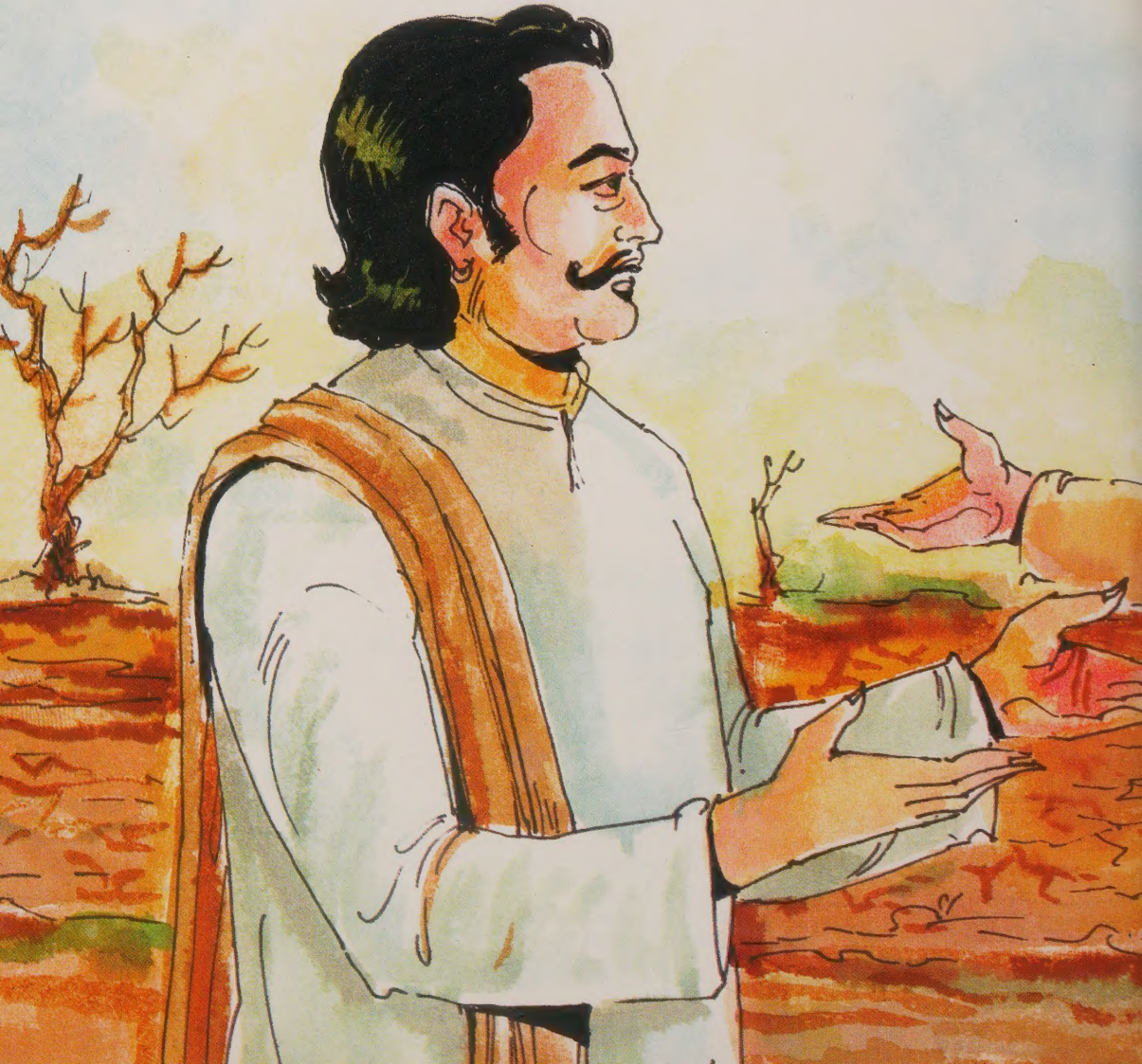
Translated in Konkani by: Guru Baliga

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Long long ago in the peak of summer, the people of a distant village began complaining about the sun.

“It’s so hot!” said one.

“The river is drying up!” said another.



साभार काळ पयले, वैशाखा दिवसांत दूर आशिले एक
गांवचे लोक सुर्याले विशयांत तकरार करूंक लागलीं.

एकलो म्हणालो “भारी शेखो.”

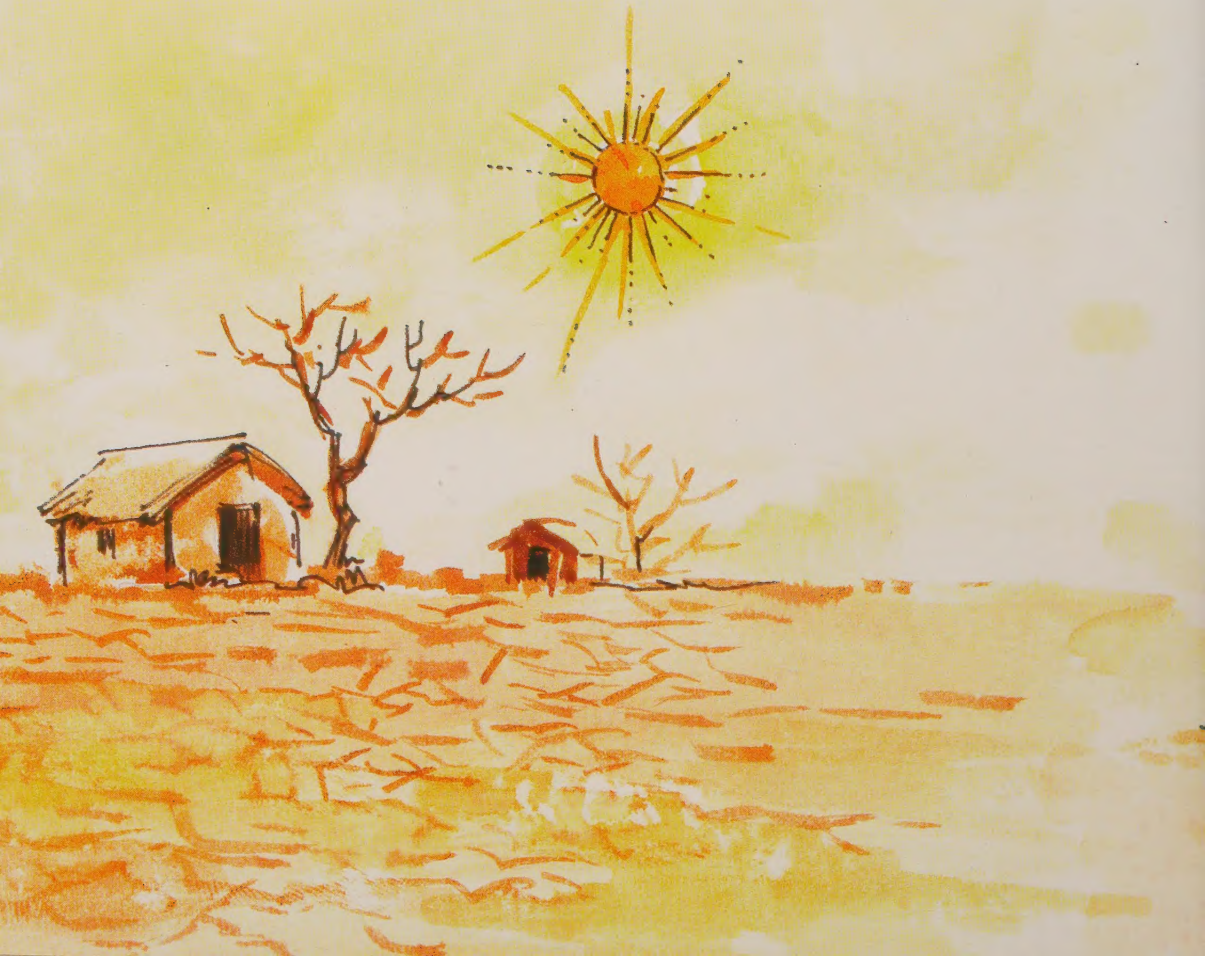
आनी एकलो म्हणालो “न्हंय सुखली.”



They complained day in and day out.

“Why does the sun have to shine so brightly? Look at all the fields, they are scorched!” the people would say.

They would hide from the sun and one day they looked up and cursed him!



तीं दीस रात तक्रार काडूंक लागलीं.

“ह्या नमने कित्याक रणरणेता सूर्य. शेतांक पळे, जळन गेल्यांत.” लोक म्हणतालें. तीं वतांत दाकून निपावन सावटांतच बसतलीं.

आनी एक दीस तानीं वयर पळोवन सूर्याक श्राप दिलो.





The sun was very angry. He decided never to show his face to the world again.

He thought, “These ungrateful people! I provide them with light and warmth and help things grow and they curse me! I will go away and never return!”

सुर्याक मस्त राग आयलो. भूंयक आनी तोंड दाकयतलो
न्हंय म्हणून ताणे निश्चय केले.

तो चिंतलो “उपकार नातिलो लोक हो! हांव तांका
उजवाड दिता, हुनसाण दिता, शेतां वाडूक सहाय करता.
जाल्यारीय हे लोक माका श्राप दितात. हांव खंय पुण
वयता आनी परत येतलोच न्हय.”



So the sun went away. The world became a very dark and cold place. Crops would not grow, children became sick, many illnesses spread.

The people were very unhappy. They did not know what to do.



तशें म्हणून सूर्य गेलो. सगळो संसार अंधकारांत
बुडलो. हुनसाण ना अशी थंड पडलो. शेंतांत फ़सल
उबजले ना. चरडूं बाळ पीडेस्त जालें, आनी गांव भर
रोगां भरलें.

लोक सकड दुखार पडलें. किते करका म्हण तांका
कळ्ळे ना.



Then one day an old wise man said, “Let's go to the rooster and tell him of our plight! I'm sure he will be able to help us!”

Everyone agreed and they trooped together into the forest where the rooster lived.



एक दीस गांवांतलो एक म्हलगडो बुदवंत म्हणालो
“आमी वचा कुंकडा कडे आनी सांगया ताका आमचे
कष्ट. तो कांय उपाय करतलो म्हण म्हाका विश्वास
आसा.”

लोक मानलें आनी सकड सांगात मेळून कुंकडाक सोधून
राना वाटे गेले.



When they reached the rooster's house, the old man called out, "Rooster! Mr. Rooster, please come out, we need your help."

Hearing the call, the rooster came out.



कुंकडाचें घराक पावन म्हातार्यान आपयले “कुंकड
माम्मा, कुंकड माम्मा, दय करन भायर यो, आमका
तुजी मदत जाय.”

आपवणे आयकून कुंकड भायर आयले.



“Oh it's you! What is it?” asked the rooster to the old man.

The old man told the rooster of what had happened and said, “Only you can reason with the sun and make him come back! Please help us!”



म्हातार्याक पळोवन कुंकड म्हणाले “हो तूं आयला?
गजाल कितें.”

म्हातार्यान कुंकडाक जाली गजाल सांगली. आनी
म्हणालो “आता तूंवेच सुर्या कडेन उलोवन ताणे
फाटी येवशीं करका. दया करन आमका मजत कर.”



“Hmmm.... So that's why the sun disappeared. I was wondering what had happened. Alright, I will see what I can do,” said the rooster.

He flew up to the heavens and began searching for the sun.



हां.. तरी ती की गजाल? हांव चिंतले किते जाले सूर्याक
म्हणून. सम तरी हांव पळयता किते करचे म्हणून.

अशें सांगून कुंकड उडले सर्गा कडे सूर्याक सोधून.



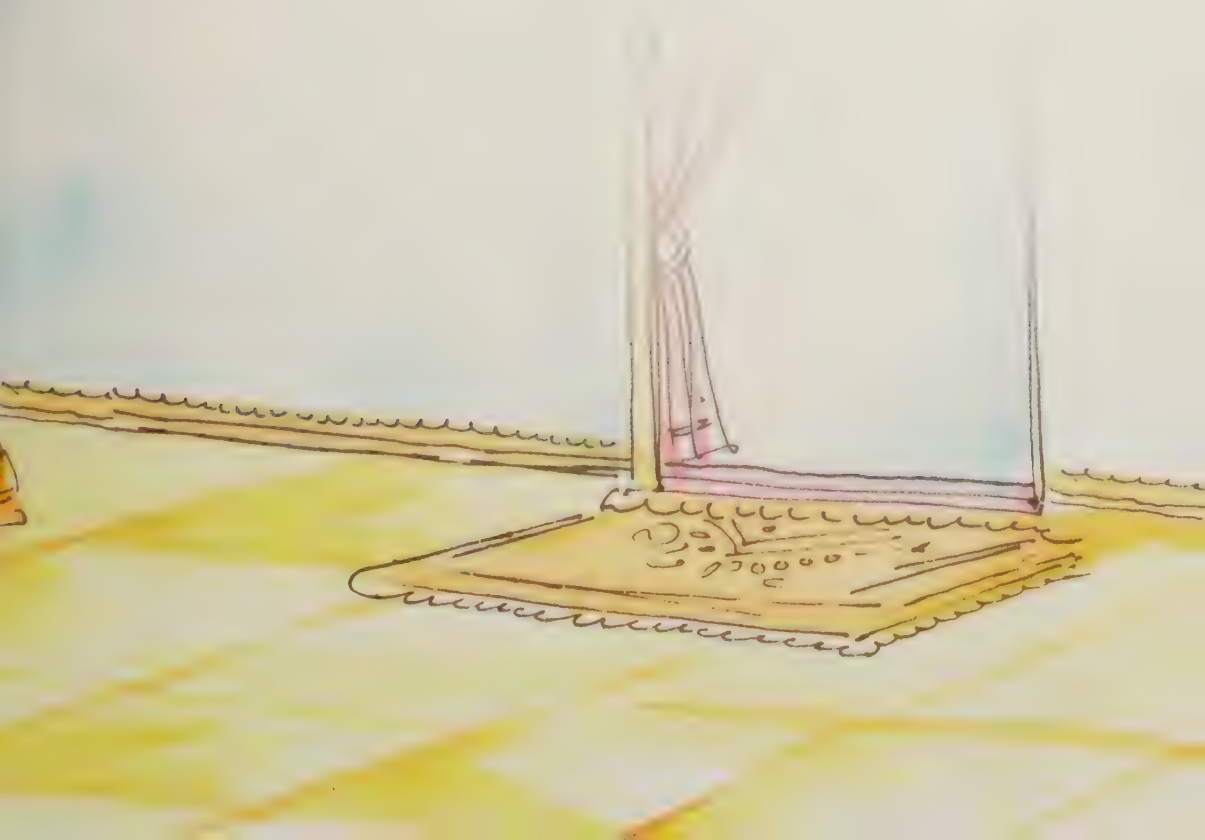
After a long search, the rooster found the sun hiding in a far corner of the heavens.

“There you are Mr. Sun! I've been looking everywhere for you! Now come along! You know those people didn't really mean to curse you! They were just tired of the heat,” he said.



साभार सोधले परांत दूर कोन्शेंत लिपोवन बयशीलो
सूर्य कुंकडाक दिसलो.

“हांगा आसाकी तूं सुर्या. हांव तुका किते खंय खंय
सोधले. हां आता यो. लोकांक घरमी किते लागली
म्हणून तानी श्रापले आनी तुका वायट चिंतून न्हंय.”
म्हणाले कुंकड सुर्याक.



The sun refused to listen to the rooster.

So the rooster shook his head in despair and said, "Alright, do as you please. Now I must go back home in the dark. I am sure to be attacked by some wild beast. The least you can do is, come to my aid if I need help. I will call for you."



सूर्यान कुंकडाचें आयकले ना.

कुंकड निराश जाले. “सम तर. तूं किते सांगता तशें. आता म्हाका काळकांत फाटी वयचाक पडले. म्हाका भंय दिसता कांय किते राक्षस वाटेर धरतलो म्हणून. तू इतले पुण कर की हांव आवाज घाल्यार माका वांचोवक यो.” कुंकडान सूर्याक मागणि केली.



So, the rooster flew back to earth. He entered the forest and hid between the foliage and screamed, “Cock-a-doodle-doo!”

The sun heard the rooster's call and rushed to help him. He searched everywhere but could not find him.



कुंकड आशें भूंयचे कडे फाटी गेले. कुंकड राना रिगले
आनी झाडकुटांचे मधे लिपोवन बयसून किळांच मारली.
कुं-कू-कुक्कुड-कुं....

सूर्यान कुंकडाली किळांच आयकून मदत करुंक तो
धावन भायर आयलो. आनी सकड कडेन सोधूक लागलो.
ताका कुंकड खंयी मेळूंक ना.



Even today, every morning the sun rushes out when he hears the rooster's cry.

The people are happy and thankful to the rooster.



आजीकय सदांच कुंकडान किळांच मारले तेन्ना
सूर्य ताका मजत करूंक धावन येता.

अशें लोक कुंकडान केले उपकाराक आभार
आसात.



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Imagine the world without a sun! Truth is, it did happen once, a long time ago. If it weren't for the clever rooster, we wouldn't have the warm morning rays of the sun to wake us up!

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